

Activity: International Park Affairs

Activity Summary

Program Component	2003 Enacted	2004 Estimate	FY 2005			Change From 2004 (+/-)
			Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Office of International Affairs	945	848	+9	0	857	+9
Southwest Border Program	763	758	+1	0	759	+1
Total Requirements	1,708	1,606	+10	0	1,616	+10

Authorization

16 U.S.C. 1	National Park Service Organic Act
16 U.S.C. 470a-1	National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (Title IV)
42 U.S.C. 4332	National Environmental Policy Act
16 U.S.C. 1537	Endangered Species Act, as amended
19 U.S.C. 3301 <i>et seq.</i>	North American Free Trade Agreement, December 17, 1992

Activity Overview

The National Park Service, through the **International Park Affairs** activity, coordinates a number of mandated international assistance and support functions that meaningfully complement the Service's domestic role. These include: support to Regional Offices and Park Units so that they can collaborate effectively with neighboring countries to protect and manage resources shared across international boundaries; development and support of training workshops and technical assistance projects for other nations to aid in the protection and management of their national parks and protected areas; facilitation of the transfer of park and protected area management information and technology worldwide; and formation of a partnership with Mexico to provide for maximum protection of significant shared natural and cultural resources on the United States/Mexico border.

NPS Program Mission ...

The National Park Service is dedicated to conserving unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Service is also responsible for managing a great variety of national and international programs designed to help extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and **the world**.

DOI Outcome Goals Applicable to this Activity

Resource Protection

1.1 Improve Health of Watersheds, Landscapes, and Marine Resources

The programs of this activity support this goal by coordinating and providing technical assistance on an international level to improve and maintain proper function to watersheds and landscapes.

1.2 Sustain Biological Communities

The programs of this activity support this goal by coordinating and providing technical assistance on an international level to promote the national park idea, which helps biological communities to flourish, including migrating species that may spend part of their time in the United States.

1.3 Protect Cultural and Natural Heritage Resources

The programs of this activity support this goal by coordinating and providing technical assistance to protect cultural and natural heritage resources on an international level, including participation in the World Heritage Committee.

Recreation

3.1 Provide for a quality recreation experience, including access and enjoyment of natural and cultural resources

The programs of this activity support this goal by coordinating and providing technical assistance on an international level to promote recreational opportunities, improve capacities to provide access for recreation, and manage recreation activities seamlessly. It also enhances the quality of recreation opportunities, interpretation and education programs and ensures responsible use in recreation. This activity facilitates international training opportunities and symposiums that add to the quality and breadth of interpretive and educational programs.

Activity:	International Park Affairs
Program Component:	Office of International Affairs

FY 2005 Base Program Overview

In response to both Executive and Legislative directives, the National Park Service works to protect and enhance America's and the world's parks and protected areas through strengthening the management, operation, and preservation of outstanding natural and cultural resources and critical habitats. The NPS shares its recognized leadership in natural and cultural heritage resource management worldwide and assists in the attainment of United States foreign policy objectives.

The Office of International Affairs (OIA) exchanges technical and scientific information, shares knowledge and lessons learned, and provides technical assistance to other nations and United States territories on park and heritage resource management issues. It also assists in the implementation of international obligations that arise from Legislative mandates and Executive initiatives. OIA coordinates the placement of international volunteers-in-the-parks.

- **Long-Term Programs.** The Office of International Affairs develops and implements cooperative international agreements to conduct long-term programs for protected areas conservation and resource management with key international partners. Each of these international partner countries will have shared significant experiences and knowledge on protected areas issues that will increase their viability as regional role models for and partners with other nations.

The National Park Service also shares management responsibility for preservation and conservation of natural and cultural resources with international park authorities along United States borders with Canada and Mexico as well as with neighboring Russia and the Caribbean Basin. The NPS accomplishes these responsibilities through decentralized activities initiated and funded directly between NPS park units and field offices, and their counterparts across the border.

- **Technical Assistance.** Every year, technical assistance requests from a wide variety of countries around the globe arise on an ad hoc basis.
- **International Volunteers.** OIA coordinates with NPS field office staff to facilitate training opportunities, in park units, for park and conservation professionals from abroad. This long-standing program is entitled International Volunteers in Parks. Service employees benefit from their direct interaction and exchanges with their international professional colleagues.

Use of Cost and Performance Information: International Park Affairs

The International Volunteers in Park (IVIP) program, managed by the National Park Service Office of International Affairs (OIA), helps the Park Service achieve both its domestic and international missions. The IVIP program places annually over 100 international students and park management professionals in U.S. parks where they receive training in nearly all aspects of park management. The majority of IVIPs go on to careers in park management and conservation.

IVIPs make a significant contribution to the NPS. As part of their training, they assist the NPS in almost all facets of park management other than law enforcement. They help conduct wildlife research, present interpretive and environmental education programs to visitors and students, design publications, and much more. The direct financial benefits to the Service are also considerable: in FY2003, IVIPs contributed over 72,000 hours of service to the NPS, representing nearly \$1,200,000 in saved costs.

For example, Roberto Quintero, an IVIP and ecology student from Mexico, spent the summer of 2003 at North Cascades National Park assisting the park in researching the elusive Black Swift, a bird which breeds in the park and winters in Mexico and Central America. Roberto's work greatly aided the park in learning more about this little-studied species. Roberto's IVIP experience was one of several in 2003 coordinated with the NPS "Park Flight" program, a partnership between the NPS and multiple partners, especially American Airlines and the National Park Foundation (NPF). American Airlines provided Roberto's tickets, while the NPF paid for his lodging and per diem at North Cascades.

The IVIP program is an excellent example of a NPS initiative that provides additional resources to NPS programs at considerable cost savings to the American taxpayer.

① Information on the NPS International Affairs Program is available online at: <http://www.nps.gov/oia>

2003 Program Performance Accomplishments

- The Memorandum of Understanding between the National Park Service and the national park agencies in the Peoples' Republic of China, Venezuela and Argentina were renewed.
- A Memorandum of Understanding between the National Park Service and the National Park Agency in Gabon was concluded in support of the President's Congo Basin Forest Partnership Initiative.
- The Service placed 139 international volunteers at 50 different parks through the International-Volunteers-in-Parks (IVIP) program. The volunteers worked an average of 13 weeks or 520 hours for a total of 1,817 weeks or 72,280 hours. Total value of their volunteer hours was \$1,195,511.
- NPS Director and 7 staff members attended the 5th World Parks Congress held in Durban, South Africa.
- The National Park Service hosted the visit of the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Director, the Gabon National Park Director and Venezuelan National Park Director. The Director also met with her counterparts in Mexico and Canada.
- Provided support for and attended two World Heritage Committee meetings under the mandated leadership of the Assistant Secretary of Fish and Wildlife and Parks.
- Organized and facilitated a workshop in Honduras for U.S. Canadian and Latin American ornithologists.
- Developed the National Park Service's International Strategic Plan.
- OIA briefed 141 international park and protected area managers from 60 different countries around the world.
- Reduced international travel down to 268 trips from 300-400.

2004 Planned Program Performance

- Renew Memoranda of Understanding between the National Park Service and Institute of Anthropology and History in Mexico, our counterpart agency for cultural resource protection.
- Conduct a joint meeting of U.S. and Canadian World Heritage site Superintendents on our joint periodic reporting exercise.
- Develop, plan and begin NPS participation in the Congo Basin Forest Partnership.
- Provide continuing support and participation at World Heritage Committee meetings under the leadership of the Assistant Secretary of Fish and Wildlife and Parks.
- Continue placing international volunteers in national park units.
- Continue developing and implementing the National Park Service International Strategic Plan.

FY 2005 Budget Request: Office of International Affairs

Request Component	Amount
FY 2004 Budget Estimate	848
Programmatic Changes	
• Office of International Affairs	No Change
TOTAL Program Changes	0
Uncontrollable Changes	+9
FY 2005 Budget Request	857
Net Change	+9

Activity: International Park Affairs
Program Component: Southwest Border Program

FY 2005 Base Program Overview

The National Park Service manages seven park areas along the 20,000-mile border shared between the United States and Mexico. They include Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Coronado National Memorial, Chamizal National Memorial, Big Bend National Park, Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River, Amistad National Recreation Area, and Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site. The Service administers roughly 18 percent of the land on the United States side of the border. Mexico manages nine protected areas in the U.S./Mexico Border Region. These areas include Parque Nacional Constitucion de 1857, Alto Golfo y Delta del Rio Colorado, El Pinacate, Gran Desierto de Altar, Reserva Federal Sierra de los Ajos, Canyon de Santa Elena, Maderas del Carmen, Parque Nacional de los Novillos and Reserva de Cuatrociénegas. Memoranda of Understanding and 2-4 year work plans have been established between the NPS and the Comision de Areas Naturales Protegidas and the Instituto Nacional de Antropologia a Historia of Mexico for collaboration on the protection, preservation, and conservation of shared natural and cultural resources along the border.

The NPS Intermountain Region International Conservation Programs Office (IMRICO) was established to fulfill the mission of strengthening cooperation between entities in the United States and Mexico for the design and implementation of strategies to conserve natural and cultural heritage shared by both countries. The IMRICO office, located at New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, facilitates the completion of Service responsibilities related to border park protection and responds to environmental concerns. This is being accomplished through the following international activities:

- Park management and planning, wildlife research field training courses, environmental education, organization and support for



international forums on conservation, and providing technical assistance on natural and cultural resource management plans.

- Continued leadership and support for international forums on the management of protected areas and wildlife.
- Continued leadership role on the United States Department of the Interior Field Coordinating Committee and the Southwest Strategy to achieve a unified agency approach to bi-national management issues with Mexico.
- Continued support of the formation of an ecological bi-national partnership within the Sonoran Desert Region.
- Assisting New Mexico State University to form a bi-national education program for the conservation and management of natural resources along the United States/Mexico Border.
- Collaborating with Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History for the establishment of a bi-national Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Historic Trail in both countries.
- Working with United States/Mexico Federal, State, municipal, and private entities on the Mimbres-Paquime connection trail located in southern New Mexico and northern Chihuahua, and La Ruta de Sonora located in southwestern Arizona and Baja California, Sonora, Mexico.
- Collaborating with Mexican colleagues on research projects, inventories, and the development of appropriate protection strategies for archeological and paleontological resources in the Border region.
- Continued partnership role and support for international forums that focus on the protection, management, and conservation of historic and cultural areas.

2003 Program Performance Accomplishments

Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Program:

- Research papers that were presented at previous El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Colloquia were completed and will be published.
- Work continued on an assessment relating to archeological/historical military sites, and on an Ethnographic Assessment of Tourism impacts in indigenous and Hispanic communities along El Camino Real in the U.S. and Mexico.
- A database of historic research documents was established.
- Held an International Workshop on the Management of Natural and Cultural Resources for NPS, BLM, and the State of New Mexico employees in Mexico.

U.S./Mexico Spanish Missions Program

- Three meetings were held to discuss projects and programs of mutual interest relating to U.S. and Mexico Spanish missions. It focused on academic exchange, research, conservation, and training.



Hermitage and Fort in Asientos, Mexico (Photo by Adrian Caldera)

Mimbres/Paquime Connections Program

- Work continued on the program which focuses on community support for the design and development of a cultural tourism trail. Meetings were held to discuss issues and programs leading towards promotion of the heritage trail.

Northern Mexico and Southwest Texas Program

- The first colloquium was held and 27 academic-level presentations were given from both countries. Eighty to one-hundred participants attended the forum.

Education and Training

- Held first Seminar on the Management of Cultural Resources in the U.S. and Mexico. It included keynote presentations by U.S. and Mexico representatives, followed by panel presentations, group analysis, and discussion. Focus was on the management of cultural resources.

- The Sixth International Symposium on the Restoration of Historic Adobe Structures (TICRAT) was held in Mexico. Professionals and amateurs from the field of historic preservation shared ideas and experiences in the conservation and restoration of adobe structures. A hands-on field exercise was given to participants in working with adobe building techniques and methods.

Other Research and Training Programs

- Materials and Model Curricula for Training Courses in Cultural Property Protection.
- The Padre Kino Fruit Project.
- The Desert Speaks: A program on El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro.
- Mid-Level Professional Exchange for Historic Architects in the U.S. and Mexico for the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro.
- A U.S. and Mexico teachers workshop.
- Education program at Guadalupe Mountains National Park and Northern Mexico. Co-funded 11 international projects with CESU, including two US/Canadian projects with Wrangle St. Elias NP and Glacier NP that deal with parks/Canada issues.
- Organized US/Mexico work plan meeting held in Tucson. Meeting resulted in formulation of seven US/Mexico park-to-park projects.

2004 Planned Program Performance

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Program:

- 2nd Annual Camino Real Symposium in the Española area and publication of El Caminante Magazine.
- Complete Phase I of a Rapid Ethnographic Assessment of Tourism Impacts on Indigenous and Hispanic Communities Along Camino Real de Tierra Adentro in the U.S. and Mexico.
- 9th International Colloquium on the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro in Queretaro, Mexico.
- 5th International Workshop on Cultural Tourism on the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro in Guanajuato, Mexico.
- NPS-INAH Camino Real GMP Field Trip from New Mexico to Chihuahua, Durango, Zacatecas, and Aguascalientes.
- Publication of selected U.S./Mexico papers that were presented at previous colloquiums on the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro.

Mimbres-Paquime Connection Program:

- Continue support for the projects related to conservation, education, promotion, and tourism along the Mimbres-Paquime Connection trail route in New Mexico and Chihuahua (on-going).

U.S./Mexico Spanish Missions Program:

- Continue support for the projects related to conservation and interpretation of the U.S./Mexico Spanish Missions in both countries (on-going).
- Organization and coordination of a U.S./Mexico Spanish Missions of the Americas Conference for 2005.

Other Projects (Organization and coordination of US-Mexico Exchange program including training courses and international forums):

- TICRAT Adobe Workshop.
- Getting to Know Mexico Training Course.
- Educational workshop for U.S.-Mexico teachers at Carlsbad Caverns and Guadalupe NP.
- International Symposium on the management of Cultural Resources in partnership with the Southwest Strategy, INAH, IMRICO
- Organization and coordination of a U.S./Mexico Archeology Conference in 2005.

Sister Parks Collaboration

- Management training course on habitat monitoring, environmental education, and eco-tourism for U.S./Mexico park managers.
- Facilitate exchange of visits between U.S./Mexico park personnel.

- Initiate the establishment of a U.S./Mexico sister park program.

Border Park Projects

- Continued support for IMRICO/CESU grants proposals for projects.
- Continued participation in the FCC program.
- Continued work on NPS/NMSU conservation and education projects.

FY 2005 Budget Request: Southwest Border Program

Request Component	Amount
FY 2004 Budget Estimate	758
Programmatic Changes	
• Southwest Border Program	No Change
TOTAL Program Changes	0
Uncontrollable Changes	+1
FY 2005 Budget Request	759
Net Change	+1

Justification of FY 2005 Budget Request for International Park Affairs

Request Component	Amount
FY 2004 Budget Estimate	1,606
Programmatic Changes	No Change
TOTAL Program Changes	No Change
Uncontrollable changes	+10
FY 2005 Budget Request	1,616
Net change	+10

Workload Tables: International Park Affairs**International Park Affairs Workload Factors**

Workload Factors	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Estimate	FY 2005 Estimate
Response to outside stakeholder requests	100%	100%	100%
Number of new or renewed contacts	32	25	20
Number of long-term programs implemented	Maintain existing	-1	-3 existing
Response to technical assistance requests	100%	100%	100%
Number of international volunteers working to strengthen NPS resource management	174	125	125

Southwestern Border Program Performance Information

Performance measure	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Estimate	FY 2005 Estimate
Percent of states, communities, and nonprofit organizations served are satisfied with NPS partnership assistance in providing recreation and conservation	93.8%	93.8%	93.8%

Activity Performance Summary

(Performance includes support from HPS and other NR&P Activities)

End Outcome Goal 1.3: Resource Protection. Protect cultural and natural heritage resources							
Resource Protection: Protect cultural and natural resources	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Plan/ Budget	2004 Revised Final Plan	FY 2005 Request	Change in Performance 2004 to Planned 2005	Long- term Target (2008)
Intermediate Outcome: Increase partnerships, volunteer opportunities, and stakeholder satisfaction Intermediate Outcome Measures (Key and Non-Key) and PART Outcome Measures							
% of communities served are satisfied with NPS partnership assistance in providing recreation and conservation benefits on lands and waters. (BUR IIIb2)	92.9%	No Survey	94.8%	No change	No Survey	NA	95%